



Congresswoman Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick, Michigan's 13th District

Hill News

News From The Office of Congresswoman Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick

This Week In Congress:

UNDOCUMENTED ALIENS EMERGENCY MEDICAL ASSISTANCE ACT (HR-3722)

House Bill H.R. 3722 would require hospitals to collect data about immigrants' legal status and employers and collect a fingerprint or picture in order to be reimbursed for the expense of their treatment. Undocumented immigrants could be deported based on that information. I voted against this measure because it would turn our doctors into border patrol agents and burden them with paperwork when they should be concentrated on saving lives. Several Republicans, including Majority Leader Tom delay of Texas joined nearly all House Democrats in defeating this measure 331-88.

OVERTIME REGULATIONS (H.R. 2660)

I supported Congressman George Miller's efforts to block the final overtime regulations issued by the Bush Administration. Miller asked Members to agree on a provision that prohibits the use of funds to implement any portion of a rule that would take eligibility for overtime pay away from any employees currently entitled to overtime.

DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION BILL (H.R. 4200)

The U.S. House overwhelmingly approved a \$447 billion, fiscal year 2005 defense authorization bill by a vote of 391-34. I was one of the 34 who voted against this measure. A major issue of concern is that the additional \$25 billion authorized for military operations in Iraq gives the Pentagon a blank check to spend the money as it sees fit. The Bush Administration cannot be trusted to seek Congressional approval to reprogram resources. In 2002, the Administration secretly moved approximately \$200 million out of Afghanistan operations to Iraq war planning without Congressional approval. There must be more Congressional oversight in this \$422 billion bill. Also, I am disappointed by the House Armed Services Committee's lack of attention to the problem of sexual assault abuse within military circles. The amendment attached to this bill did nearly nothing to address this problem. I am hopeful that a better bill will emerge from conference when the House meets with the Senate to iron out a compromise agreement.

WORLD WAR II VETERANS

I want to inform all of the WWII Veterans in the 13th Congressional District who will be coming to Washington for the dedication of the WWII Memorial on Saturday, May 29, 2004 that there will be a reception honoring you given by the Michigan Congressional Delegation. The reception will be held Friday, May 28th in room 2123 of the Rayburn House Office Building located at Independence and South Capitol Streets, S.E. There will also be a host of other events commending WWII Veterans that weekend. For more information contact Jacob Bennett in my Washington office at (202) 225-2261.

MEDICARE/Rx DRUGS TOWNHALLS

My next Medicare/Rx event will be May 25, 2004 in Detroit in the multi-purpose room of the Lexington Village Apartments located at 1310 Pallister. For more information you can contact Mr. James Slaughter in my Detroit office at (313) 965-9004.

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